

Senate File 116 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 116

BY BEALL and DEARDEN

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring the display of a red flag while persons being
2 towed by a vessel are in the water and making penalties
3 applicable.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 462A.15, subsection 1, Code 2013, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. a. ~~No~~ A person shall not operate a vessel on any
4 waters of this state under the jurisdiction of the commission
5 ~~for towing and tow~~ a person or persons on water skis, a
6 surfboard, or a similar device unless ~~there is in such vessel a~~
7 responsible person, in addition to the operator, ~~in a position~~
8 ~~to observe~~ is in the vessel and observing the progress of the
9 person or persons being towed.

10 b. The operator shall ensure that the responsible person
11 raises a bright red flag whenever a person is preparing to be
12 towed or falls into the water, until the person is removed from
13 the water or is being towed. The flag shall be at least twelve
14 inches square, shall be displayed on a pole that is at least
15 twenty-four inches high, and shall be visible in all directions
16 around the horizon.

17 EXPLANATION

18 This bill provides that whenever a person on water skis,
19 a surfboard, or a similar device is preparing to be towed by
20 a vessel or falls into the water, a responsible person other
21 than the operator of the vessel, is required to raise a bright
22 red flag until the person is removed from the water or is being
23 towed. The flag is required to be not less than 12 inches
24 square, be displayed on a pole not less than 24 inches high,
25 and be visible in all directions around the horizon.

26 A person who violates this provision is subject to a
27 scheduled fine of \$25 pursuant to Code section 805.8B(1)(c).